

Abstract

A method for the detection of a cell comprises immobilizing the cell in a device also containing a sensor, and introducing a growth medium, wherein the sensor is sensitive to a product of the cell's growth; and detecting any change in an optical characteristic of the sensor. A device suitable for use in the invention comprises a chamber including a sensor, inlets for sample and for a growth medium, and means for immobilizing an antibody in the chamber or elsewhere in the device that provides a fluidic link with the sensor.